



DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, October 30, 2008

The meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, October 30, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Jim Holley
Ronald L. Griffin
Mohamed Okdie **(ABS)**
Erminia Ramirez
Willie Hampton

Department Personnel Present

AC Ronald Fleming
PO Sophia Nelms

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director **(ABS)**
Celia Banks-Washington, Attorney/Supervising Inv.
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator **(ABS)**
Lawana Ducker, Personnel Director
Curtis Staples, Supervising Investigator
PO Kent Cooper

OTHERS PRESENT

Ron Scott	Mary Lacy
Michael Allen	Marcus Rushing
Tina Cook	Lawanda Hail-Ruffin
Kelvin Fortenberry	Bernice Smith

RECORDERS

Jerome Adams
Robert Brown

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Holley called the meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:23 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **Thursday, October 30, 2008**

MOTION: **Comm. Hampton** made the motion to approve the Agenda.

SECOND: **Comm. Ramirez** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Thursday, October 23, 2008**

MOTION: **Comm. Hampton** made the motion to approve the Minutes.

SECOND: **Comm. Ramirez** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

4. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT

1. CHAIRPERSON

2. SECRETARY'S REPORT

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED



- The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of **1,373** active investigations, of which **1,152** of those are for 2008.

TOTAL WEEKLY ALLEGATIONS & COMMAND

Total	COMMAND	ALLEGATIONS									Total
CCR	W/E 10/30/08	Arrest	Demeanor	Force	Harassment	Entry	Procedure	Property	Search	Service	Allegations
2	CENTRAL		1		1		2				4
7	COMMUNICATIONS		3				2			4	9
7	EASTERN		4	1			4			2	11
3	NORTHEASTERN		3				2			1	6
6	NORTHWESTERN	1	2	2			5			1	11
4	SOUTHWESTERN	1	2				3				6
2	TCRU		2				1				3
3	TRAFFIC ENF	1	2	2			1				6
17	Unknown Command		6	1	1		7	1		6	22
2	WESTERN	1	1				2				4
53		4	26	6	2		29	1		14	82

5. PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE

October 30, 2008

Volume 4, Issue 43

Detroit Police Department

Report to the Board of Police Commissioners



Special Points of Interest:

• Next meeting:

Thursday, November 6, 2008

@ 3:00 P.M.

**Detroit Police Headquarters
1300 Beaubien
Detroit, Michigan 48226**

“Building a Safer Detroit Through Community Partnerships”

The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Domestic Violence

On October 22nd, officers of the Northwestern District responded to the 19000 block of Pierson on a “Person with a Weapon/Assault.” The officers arrested a subject and recovered a weapon. Subsequent to the investigation conducted by members of Domestic Violence, the subject was charged with “Felony Assault,” “Domestic Violence,” and “Habitual 4th.”

Inside this issue:

Narcotics/Gang Enforcement 1

Domestic Violence 1

Northeastern District 2

Southwestern District 2

Central District 2

Eastern District 2

Western District 2

Engaging the Community

Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the District stations in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Mini/Sub-Stations to make reports.

		<u>Location</u>	<u>Hours of Operation</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Southwestern District	2	1300 Beaubien	24 Hours	596-5100
		2151 E. Jefferson	24 Hours	596-6400
		7737 Kercheval	2 p.m. to 10 p.m.	628-2121
Central District	2	19810 Grand River	*10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	870-0649
		13530 Lesure	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	596-5300
Eastern District	2	12000 Livernois	24 Hours	237-2555
		20 Atwater	24 Hours	237-2850
Western District	2	13206 E. Jefferson	*2 p.m. to 10 p.m.	343-7506
		22101 Moross (St. John Hospital)	*2 p.m. to 10 p.m.	
		14700 Mack	*2 p.m. to 10 p.m.	

* Mini-Stations

October 30, 2008

Police / Community Intervention

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Northeastern District

On October 20th, officers of the Northeastern District responded to the 20000 block of Conant on a Bank Robbery in Progress." As a result of the officers quick response, the subject was arrested and charged with "1st Degree Robbery Armed of a Bank."



Southwestern District

On October 24th, officers of the Southwestern District responded to a "Person Armed with a Gun" that occurred in the 9000 block of Ward. As a result of their investigation, a subject was arrested and charged with "Assault with Intent to Murder," "Great Bodily Harm," "Felonious Assault," and "Felony Firearm."



Eastern District

On October 20th, while on patrol in the area of Gunston and Minden, officers of the Eastern District heard shouting and several subjects running with bags. As a result of their quick response, two subjects were arrested and charged with "Armed Robbery." The stolen items were recovered.



Western District

On October 24th, officers of the Western District executed a search warrant in the 20000 block of Meyers. As a result, four subjects were arrested and charged with "Utility Theft." Various stolen items were recovered.

Chairperson Holley asked AC Fleming to speak on Angels' Night.

AC Fleming stated they had a press conference with the surrounding cities' police departments to make this a collaborative effort. He stated thus far, there were 22 incidents with only one being suspicious.

Comm. Ramirez asked what the curfew was for kids and teenagers.

AC Fleming stated 8:00 pm to 6:00 am for 15 years and under, 9:00 pm to 6:00 am for 16 and 17 year olds. He stated there were four that violated curfew last night.

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson Holley stated the Board has four closed door sessions for rejected applicants that would take place after oral communication.

Comm. Ramirez stated since Comm. Holley has been Chairperson there are Standing Committees that need to be voted on and put in the minutes.

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS STANDING COMMITTEES

❖ CITIZENS COMPLAINTS

Chair: Ramirez

Co-Chair: Griffin

❖ DISCIPLINARY APPEALS

Chair: Okdie

Co-Chair: Hampton

❖ PROMOTIONAL APPEALS

Chair: Griffin

Co-Chair: Holley

❖ **BUDGET**

Chair: Holley

Co-Chair: Griffin

❖ **LEGAL AFFAIRS**

Chair: Hampton

Co-Chair: Griffin

❖ **LABOR RELATIONS**

Chair: Okdie

Co-Chair: Hampton

❖ **PERSONNEL & TRAINING**

Chair: Holley

Co-Chair: Okdie

❖ **POLICY**

Chair: Holley

Co-Chair: Griffin

**The following Special Committees will be Ad Hoc: They are Residency, Building & Construction, Standardization of Discipline and the Labor Negotiations will be assigned as needed.

MOTION: Comm. Ramirez made the motion to approve the Standing Committees.

SECOND: Comm. Hampton seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

7. NEW BUSINESS

1. REQUEST PERMISSION TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME (OVC)

The National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA), through a grant from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is offering funding to aid up to 56 communities nationwide in conducting public awareness initiatives during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 22 – May 2, 2008. This year's theme is *"25 Years of Rebuilding Lives: Celebrating the Victims of Crime Act"*. There will be at least one project funded in each state.

The Detroit Police Department is interested in participating in this worthwhile initiative and is seeking permission to apply for a \$5,000 reimbursement grant. The grant application deadline is November 3, 2008.

If permission is granted to apply, the Rape Counseling Center would coordinate the events for the week, with Ms. Joann Cooper-Reid serving as the Project Director.

I am requesting the Board's permission to continue the application process for this grant and seek approval from the City Council.

MOTION: **Comm. Hampton** made the motion to approve the Grant.

SECOND: **Comm. Ramirez** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

8. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 6, 2008
Police Headquarters
1300 Beaubien, Rm. 328-A
Detroit, MI 48226

10. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

R. Scott asked if someone could report on the national oversight conference that was held in Cincinnati, and how this Board is compared to other oversight boards.

E. Ramirez stated that she didn't know about the conference in Cincinnati, but at the conference that she attended in Canada, there were only four US oversight boards represented. This Board is more advanced than their counterparts. She stated due to the limitation of items you can bring on the airplane she wasn't able to bring back a lot of material.

R. Scott stated at the Angels Night press conference he was told there was a National Guard volunteer in full uniform. The newspaper stated that the National Guards will be providing additional safety with their presence. He suggests this is not a good image to send to the citizens of Detroit.

AC Fleming stated the surrounding police forces were invited and the National Guard volunteered 25 of the members who will not be in uniform, to his knowledge. These volunteers are members of the community. The way that it was written in the paper showed how former National Guards were willing to lend their support.

R. Scott asked will they be in uniform with weapons.

AC Fleming stated it is his understanding most of them will not be in uniform only volunteers.

Chairperson Holley asked if there was a press conference and a National Guard was speaking?

AC Fleming stated yes, as a volunteer.

Chairperson Holley asked who was in charge of the press conference.

AC Fleming stated the Mayor.

Chairperson Holley stated by having a National Guard in uniform sends a mixed message to the community. He asked whether a member of the Guardian Angels were invited to our community.

AC Fleming stated he didn't see him at the press conference.

Chairperson Holley stated with 40,000 people, one person can send a bad signal to the community. He stated as oversight for this department and the community, this Board should have had some input.

T. Shields stated there has been a rash of violence in her neighborhood recently.

AC Fleming asked what area is that.

T. Shields stated a person came into her home while she was there and left a weapon. At times the police have been helpful and at times there have been some bad communication skills with some of the officers.

Chairperson Holley asked her if she had met with the commanders of the Northeastern District.

T. Shields stated the officers are not courteous to callers.

Chairperson Holley asked Ms. Shields if she will attend the next Board Community Meeting at Fellowship Chapel, November 13, at 6:30 pm to meet the commanders from her district.

T. Shields stated most of the people in her area don't have confidence in the department. They want to see some results.

AC Fleming stated someone will take her information after the meeting so she won't have to wait until November 13th.

M. Lacy asked if any of the Board members had ever filed a complaint before they became commissioners, to understand what the citizens are going through. She stated based on the numbers that was given only 128 complaints have been closed and it is November already.

Comm. Ramirez stated yes, as President of the Community Relations Council. But the number that you mentioned is ongoing cases and the investigators take their job seriously. They have to do a thorough investigation before coming up with a finding and that takes time.

Supv. Staples stated most of the investigations are ongoing and the numbers don't reflect that.

Comm. Ramirez asked Supv. Staples for the time frame the DOJ (Department of Justice) gave OCI to close a case.

Supv. Staples stated 60 days.

Comm. Ramirez stated the Canadian Oversight has 6 months to a year to close a case.

M. Lacy stated she don't think it should be compared to other countries.

Comm. Hampton stated he has filed a compliant with OCI as president of a union. He doesn't know how long it took but it was resolved.

Comm. Ramirez asked him if he was arrested.

Comm. Hampton stated yes and was incarcerated for 8 ½ hours.

B. Smith stated on two occasions the police have been available to assist her.

Comm. Hampton encouraged everyone to exercise their right to get out and vote on November 4, 2008.

Comm. Ramirez stated through the Chair that she moved that the Board of Police Commissioners enter into a closed session, pursuant to MCL 15. 268(a) of the Open Meetings Act, for rejected applicants, Michael Allen, Marcus Rushing, Tina Cook, and Kelvin Fortenberry.

MOTION: **Chairperson Ramirez** made the motion to enter into a closed session.

SECOND: **Comm. Hampton** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

They went into closed session at 4:04pm.

They returned from closed session at 5:31pm.

Chairperson Holley recognized Comm. Griffin as present.

MOTION: **Comm. Griffin** made the motion to return from closed session.

SECOND: **Comm. Ramirez** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Comm. Ramirez stated the Board is denying Ms. Cook appeal, but has the right to request a reexamination with MCOLES.

MOTION: **Comm. Ramirez** made the motion to deny this appeal, but a reexamination is requested.

SECOND: **Comm. Griffin** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Comm. Ramirez stated the Board is granting Mr. Fortenberry his appeal.

VOTE: Chairperson Holley-yes, Vice-Chair Griffin-yes, Comm. Ramirez-yes, Comm. Hampton-yes.

Comm. Ramirez stated the Board is granting Mr. Rushing his appeal

VOTE: Chairperson Holley-yes, Vice-Chair Griffin-yes, Comm. Ramirez-yes, Comm. Hampton-yes.

Comm. Ramirez stated the Board is granting Mr. Allen his appeal.

VOTE: Chairperson Holley-yes, Vice-Chair Griffin-yes, Comm. Ramirez-yes, Comm. Hampton-yes.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/rb